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SOURCE Soviet newspapers as indicated.

CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS REPORTED

LATVIAN CONSTRUCTION LAGS -- Sovetskaya Latvija, No 48, 27 Feb 49

On 26 February 1949, a meeting of the TsK KP(b) Latvia was held to discuss the progress of capital construction in the Latvian SSR. The meeting was attended by Kalnberzin and Titov, secretaries of TsK KP(b) Latvia; Pludom, deputy chairman of the Soviet of Ministers Latvian SSR; Shamir, chief of Division of Heavy Industry of TsK KP(b) of Latvia; Veldre, deputy chairman of State Planning Commission of the Republic; ministers, and directors of large Construction organizations in Riga and of industrial enterprises.

Shilov, deputy chief of the Division of Heavy Industry of TsK KP(b) Latvia, reported that the plan for capital construction had been fulfilled 108.5 percent by the Republic as a whole, but that the plan for utilization of buildings was far behind schedule. The Riga Electrical Machine Building Plant completed only 48.9 percent of the plan for utilization of buildings and only 47.1 percent of the penicillin plant.

Civilian housing construction failed to meet requirements. The quality of construction work on a number of construction projects (Ship-Repair Plant Settlement and Riga Airport) was very low. This situation was caused in part by poor organization of mass propaganda among construction workers, and in part by insufficient socialist competition. Modern labor methods and tools were not used to a sufficient degree.

TULA OBLAST REPORTS CONSTRUCTION PROGRESS -- Pravda, No 94, 4 Apr 49

At a Plenum of the Tula Oblast Committee of the VKP(b), Secretary Lyalin reported on construction progress for the first 3 years of the postwar Five-Year Plan. In this period, 265,000 square meters of living quarters have been built in cities and towns; 7,600 houses built and restored for collective farmers; and 5,500 economic and cultural buildings repaired and constructed.

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The criticisms were made that the area to which the directors of building organizations had allocated available building materials was too extensive and had brought about an inadmissible rise in the cost of construction; and that machinery had not been utilized to capacity in construction operations.

TORKOVICH RECONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES -- Leningradskaya Pravda, No 77, 2 Apr 49

A large amount of reconstruction has been carried out in the workers' settlement of Torkovichi, Leningrad Oblast, in postwar years. In 1948 alone, 10 new 2-apartment houses were completed and three additional houses will be built soon. More than 150 houses have been built by individual builders. The 7-year school and the plant club have been rebuilt, and the settlement has been provided with electric power and radio facilities.

BUILDING MATERIALS SENT TO GOLODNAYA STEPPE -- Pravda Vostoka, No 65, 2 Apr 49

Trainloads of timber and construction materials have been arriving at the railroad station on the Golodnaya Steppe. More than 160 carloads of logs, three carloads of cement, one carload of slate, 200 units of window frames, 568 cubic meters of stone for foundations, nails, and window glass have already been received. The agricultural bank has made long-term loans available to Komsomols emigrating to the Golodnaya Steppe. Loans totaling 413,000 rubles have already been made together with 896,000 rubles in loans for buying cattle. "Zagotzerno" of Mirzachel'skiy Rayon has made a loan of 3,490 centners of grain.

HOSPITAL CONSTRUCTION LAGS IN KAZAKHSTAN -- Bol'shevik Altaya, No 9, 14 Jan 49

An editorial in Pravda, on workers' health, recently criticized sharply Party organizations of Vostochno-Kazakhstan Oblast for lagging in the construction of medical centers, hospitals, etc., and for failing to meet the health needs of the population. In the last 10 years the number of inhabitants in Ust'-Kamenogorsk and Leninogorsk alone has increased 2 1/2-3 times, and many million rubles are currently being spent on new construction in the Oblast.

Health standards of the Oblast have progressed considerably in recent years. Hospitals, dispensaries, medical assistants' centers have been opened in villages and workers' settlements and supplies of medical preparations have increased. The Oblast has advanced beyond the point where contagious diseases took many lives.

Further development of the system of hospitals, polyclinics, etc., is not progressing satisfactorily and is lagging behind the growth in population and economy of the Oblast. The large workers' settlement at the Ust'-Kamenogorsk Zinc Plant does not have its own hospital or pharmacy. The city of Leninogorsk, with its large working population, has only one polyclinic and that one is not well housed or equipped. The same conditions exist in Zyranovsk, Bolousovka and several other workers' settlements.

LIVING SPACE INCREASED -- Krasnyy Flot, No 53, 5 Mar 49

During 1948, workers in the Kuzbass received 380,000 square meters of new housing.

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IMPROVEMENTS PLANNED FOR Khabarovsk -- Moloday Dal'nevostchnik, No 36, 1 Mar 49

The architecture division of the Khabarovsk Kray Executive Committee has begun work on general plans for cities of the Kray. Plans for reconstruction and construction of rayons in Khabarovsk, Komsomol'sk, Sovetskaya Gavan', and Birobidzhan will be drawn up this year. Plans for Krasnoflotskiy Rayon in the city of Khabarovsk have been completed and call for the expansion of the workers' settlement at the Plant imeni Kirov, including construction of multistory houses, a club, secondary schools, an FZO school, dining hall, nursery, kindergarten, dispensary, etc.

Planning of settlements at Krasnaya Rechka and Second Khabarovsk Stations has begun. The Leningrad "Gostroyproekt" (State Construction Planning) is drawing up the plans for Komsomol'sk. A group of geodesists and planners of the "Krayproekt" (Kray Planning) Trust recently arrived in Sovetskaya Gavan' to make plans for a large program of construction work there. Construction of a large settlement is being planned for Birobidzhan. The mass housing-construction program for 1949 will be carried out according to standardized plans and with extensive use of high-speed, assembly-line methods.

RECENT KORAK VILLAGE EXPANDS -- Moloday Dal'nevostchnik, No 43, 10 Mar 49

The village of Sedanka-Kochevaya, Korak National Okrug, was created several years ago by kolkhoz workers of the reindeer-raising Artel imeni Kirov, Tigil'skiy Rayon. The village now includes such facilities as a radio broadcasting and receiving station, communications division, medical center, department store, and bakery. The income of the artel in 1948 reached one million rubles. The artel's plans for the next 2 years include an increase of income to more than 3 million rubles, an increase in the number of reindeer and other livestock, doubling of the fish catch, and completion of the kolkhoz hydroelectric power plant, seven kolkhoz houses, and three public buildings.

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